

Please amend the Abstract in the following manner:

A plastic closure for a container is provided. The closure includes a top plate with a side skirt depending from the periphery thereof. A sealing strip depends from the top plate and is adapted to sealingly engage a container neck finish. The closure also comprises an abutment member including a guide surface for guiding the sealing strip towards the neck finish as the closure is applied, ~~in-to~~ increase the ~~to~~ strength of the seal. The guide surface includes a guide member that projects from the abutment member, thereby minimizing friction between the strip and the abutment member. The sealing strip is inclined radially towards the neck finish to improve the sealing effect.